

# KENTUCKY'S ENVIRONMENT



The Newsletter of the Environmental Quality Commission  
Volume 16, No. 1 January-February 2000

EQC

is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions. To receive the free EQC newsletter call 502-564-2150 ext. 160, e-mail EQC@mail.state.ky.us, or write to EQC at 14 Reilly Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601. The EQC Internet Web page is located at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>. Printed bimonthly with state funds.



## EQC Offers Recommendations to Improve Onsite Sewage in Ky.

In May 1999, the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) embarked on a project to assess onsite sewage issues and policy needs in Kentucky.

The findings reveal that improper treatment and disposal of onsite sewage remains a serious and growing problem in Kentucky. Consider some of these facts.

- 600,000 housing units depend upon onsite systems to treat sewage. That's about 40% of the state's housing units.

- Kentucky ranks first in the nation with the greatest number of rural households without complete plumbing.

- Last year, more than 22,000 onsite sewage permits were issued in Kentucky. That's an increase of 27% from the previous year.

- In 1997, state and local officials received 5,000 public complaints concerning onsite sewage.

- The Division of Water ranks onsite sewage as the 4th leading source of water pollu-

tion in monitored waterways.

- 37% of all new home constructions in Kentucky are using onsite systems for wastewater treatment.

### Recommendations

EQC conducted more than 30 interviews and surveyed county health departments to identify onsite sewage issues and needs. On September 23, 1999, EQC convened a roundtable of 37 individuals to review various onsite policy options. EQC issued seven key and nine additional recommendations based on its findings. The seven key recommendations are:

#### 1. Resources and Funding

The Onsite Sewage Program within the Cabinet for Health Services (CHS) is woefully underfunded. EQC recommends that the onsite sewage permit fee of \$30 be increased and/or state funds be allocated to adequately fund the Onsite Sewage Program.

*Continued back page - see Onsite Sewage*

## Container Recycling, Hazardous Waste Fund Among Legislative Bills Introduced

Several environmental bills have been introduced in the 2000 Kentucky General Assembly including:

- HB 1 - creates a container recycling program and provides for universal collection of solid waste.

- SB 37 - extends the hazardous waste fee paid by generators of hazardous waste which is used to help clean up state superfund sites.

- SB 14 - exempts motorcycles from the Jefferson County vehicle emissions test.

To view legislative bills, meeting schedules, or to contact your legislator visit the Legislature's Web site <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us>

Stay in touch with the General Assembly:

- legislator message line - 1-800-372-7181
- bill status line - 1-800-701-1488
- meeting schedules - 1-800-896-0305

### MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

#### Feb. 16 - Building Energy Efficient Homes Workshop -

Owensboro. Contact Greg Guess, Div. of Energy, 800-282-0868 or e-mail [Gregory.Guess@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:Gregory.Guess@mail.state.ky.us).

#### Feb. 25 - Ky. Water Resources Annual Symposium -

Wyndham Garden Hotel, Lexington. Contact: Julie Back, UK, 606-257-4634.

#### March 1-2 - Ky. Forest Industry Assn. Annual Meeting -

Marriott, Lexington. Contact: KFIA, 502-695-3979.

#### March 12-14 - Fire, People and the Central Hardwood Landscape -

Eastern Ky. Univ. Contact: Gemma Short, 606-257-7597.

#### March 15 - Integrated Pest Management Training -

Univ. of Ky., Princeton Campus. Contact: Patty Lucas, 270-365-7541, ext. 218 or e-mail [plucas@ca.uky.edu](mailto:plucas@ca.uky.edu).

#### March 23-24 - 9th Business & Industry's Environmental Forum -

Cincinnati Convention Ctr., Cincinnati. Contact: Libby Douglas, Manufacturers Education Council, 614-229-7990.

### PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS

#### Ky. Division of Water - KPDES Permit Notices

- **Greenbo State Resort Park**, Greenup (Greenup Co.) - permit modification to an existing sanitary discharge that expands capacity of a sewage treatment plant from 40,000g/d to 60,000g/d. (KY0024490)

- **Pulaski Co. Board of Education**, Somerset (Pulaski Co.) - permit modification adds a new sewage treatment plant (005) at Woodstock Elementary to an existing permit. (KY0101443)

- **Buckner Industrial Tract**, Buckner (Oldham Co.) - permit modification involving an existing source from a food processing facility. (KY0034762)

- **Ramey-Estep Boys Farm**, Garner (Boyd Co.) - reissuance of a permit with modification to an existing discharge that will allow for expansion from .0081 mgd to .015 mgd. (KY0100382)

- **15 Water Discharge Permit Issuances/Reissuances** - (Public Notice 2000 01-03). Contact: Courtney Zietz, 502-564-3410.

#### Ky. Division of Waste Management - Hazardous Waste Notices

- **Catlettsburg Refining LLC**, Catlettsburg (Boyd Co.) - intent to grant a variance from the hazardous waste regulations, excluding the refinery, from complying with all state hazardous waste regulations for certain oil-bearing wastes. The variance is issued based on federal standards that exclude these wastes from being listed as hazardous waste. **Public Comment** is due **Feb. 15**.

- **LWD, Inc.**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.) - DWM received a Clean Closure Equivalency Demonstration Report for a scrubber liquor cooling pond. **Public Comment** on the report is due **Feb 16**. Contact Michael Welch, DWM, 502-564-6716.

#### KY Division of Waste Management - Solid Waste Notices

- **LWD Sanitary Landfill** - application for renewal of a solid waste permit that will extend the permit until July 10, 2005. **Public Comment** is due by **Feb. 18**. Contact Carol Sole, DWM, 502-564-6716.

#### KY Division for Air Quality - Public Notices

- **Title V Operating or Construction/Operating Permit - Bando Mfg. of America**, Bowling Green (Warren Co.); **BF Goodrich**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Brown's Plating Service**, Paducah (McCracken Co.); **Degussa Corp.**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Dravo Lime**, Butler (Pendleton Co.); **EI DuPont**, Wurtland (Greenup Co.); **Hampshire Chemical Corp.**, Owensboro (Daviess Co.); **Imco Recycling**, Morgantown (Butler Co.); **Newport Steel**, Wilder (Campbell Co.); **Publishers Printing**, Shepherdsville (Bullitt Co.); **Sherwin Williams**, Richmond (Madison Co.); **Topy Corp.**, Frankfort (Franklin Co.); **Wacker Polymer Systems**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Westlake Monomers Corp**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); and **Inoac Packaging Group**, Bardstown (Nelson Co.).

- **Title V Operating Permit Significant Revision - Owensboro Grain**, Owensboro (Daviess Co.).

- **Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating or Operating Permit (Title V does not apply) - Inoac Packaging Group**, Leitchfield (Grayson Co.); **MRM Associates**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Modern Welding**, Owensboro (Daviess Co.); and **Woodwork of Mid-America**, Bowling Green (Warren Co.).

- **Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Construction/Operating Permit - Guardian Automotive**, Morehead (Rowan Co.).

- **Synthetic Minor Construction/Operating Permit at a Title V Source (PSD regs. do not apply) - DPL Energy**, Hardinsburg (Breckenridge Co.) and **VMV Enterprises**, Paducah (McCracken Co.).

- **Acid Rain Phase II Permit - DPL Energy**, Hardinsburg (Breckenridge Co.).

- **Revised Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit - NSA Division of Southwire**, Hawesville (Hancock Co.).

To comment on above air notices contact Bill Dills, DAQ, 502-573-3382.

*Continued back page - see Public Notices*



Environmental Quality Commission  
Meeting Announcement

## EQC Public Meeting

February 24, 2000

2 pm, Capitol Annex, Room 125, Frankfort

- **2000 General Assembly Environmental Legislation**
- **CAFO and Black Mountain Update**
- **Onsite Sewage: Response to EQC Recommendations**

All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters, and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.

### Public Notices - continued from page 1

#### Ky. Dept. for Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement

• **Draft Minimum Guidelines for the Development of Protection and Enhancement Plans of the Indiana Bat** - DSMRE, the Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service developed this document to aid the coal mining industry in understanding the options and requirements associated with mining in areas containing potential Indiana bat habitat. **Public Comment** is due by **Feb 15**. Contact Dr. Richard Wahrer, DSMRE, 502-564-2320.

#### U.S. EPA Underground Injection Wells - Public Notices

• **Big Man Oil Co.**, Henderson Co. (KY00UIC001), **Good Rocks Oil Co.**, Warren Co. (KY00UIC002), **Herman Loeb**, Union Co. (KY00UIC003), **Joseph L Nally**, Henderson Co. (KY00UIC004) - notice of intent to terminate an underground injection control permit. Contact: William Mann, US EPA Groundwater/Drinking Water Branch at 404-562-9429, ext. 29452.

#### **PROPOSED STATE REGULATIONS/PLANS**

• **Air Quality** - The Ky. Division for Air Quality has filed a notice of intent to repeal 401 KAR 50:030, 50:031, 50:032, 50:033, 50:034, 50:035, & 50:072. DAQ plans to update and reorganize the repealed regs as new regulations in a new chapter (401 KAR Chapter 52). **Public Comment** is due by **Feb. 29**. To comment contact Millie Ellis, DAQ, 502-573-3382.

#### **FEDERAL NOTICES**

• **Project: Southern Pine Beetle Control Within and Threatening Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Cluster Sites** - The U.S. Forest Service at Daniel Boone National Forest is requesting input into the control of southern pine beetles that threaten habitat of the red-cockaded woodpecker, a federally-listed endangered species. **Public Comment** is due by **Feb. 7**. To comment contact Paul Finke, DBNF, at 606-745-3146.

• **Fort Knox Clearcut** - the U.S. Army will prepare an environmental impact statement in the spring/summer 2000 for a proposed 3,000 acre clearcut. To receive information and get on the mailing list contact: Mr. Al Freeland, Environmental Management Division, 502-624-4654.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

• **Draft report "Total Maximum Daily Load Development for Chlorides in Newcombe Creek, Elliott County, Ky."** - The draft report details how the creek was placed on the list of impaired waters. Comments are due by **Feb. 11**. To obtain a copy visit web site at <http://www.state.ky.us/dow/newcombe.htm> or contact Kevin Ruhl, Div. of Water, 502-564-3410.

### Onsite Sewage - continued from page 1

#### **2. State Action Plan**

If the state is to be effective in addressing the impacts associated with sewage, it will take the collective efforts of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet (NREPC) and the Cabinet for Health Services (CHS). EQC recommends that the two cabinets work together to prepare a state action plan with the goal of setting program priorities, promoting agency cooperation and implementing collaborative strategies to address onsite sewage issues.

#### **3. Inventory**

While the number of illegal straight pipes is unknown, it is considered a widespread problem across the state. EQC recommends that a statewide inventory of straight pipes and failing septic systems be conducted and strategies be developed to target problems.

#### **4. Infrastructure Planning**

Kentucky must promote regional solutions if it is to meet its wastewater and drinking water needs. EQC recommends that counties be funded to prepare 20-year countywide wastewater/drinking water infrastructure plans to assess current and future needs and promote regionalization of services.

#### **5. Onsite Loan and Grant Fund**

Kentucky's Onsite Sewage Program must be strongly enforced but it must also be coupled with technical and financial assistance. EQC recommends the Ky. Infrastructure Authority develop a statewide onsite sewage loan and hardship grant program.

#### **6. Onsite Education Campaign**

The key to promoting onsite sewage management is a strong program of education and public outreach. EQC recommends that NREPC work with CHS to develop and fund an onsite sewage education campaign in Kentucky.

#### **7. Onsite Sewage Disclosure**

EQC recommends that lending institutions and homebuyers become advocates for proper sewage treatment through the passage of state legislation that requires the disclosure by a seller to a prospective buyer of how sewage generated is managed at the property.

Contact EQC for a copy of the report *Onsite Sewage in Kentucky* or see the EQC Web site at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>.

### EQC Earth Day 2000 Nominations Sought

Do you know someone who is doing their part to protect the environment? Why not nominate them for an EQC Earth Day Award.

To nominate a person, group, governmental official, or business send their name, and address, phone number, and one-page summary describing their efforts by March 20, 2000 to EQC or you can submit your nomination electronically by visiting the EQC Web site at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>. The name, phone number, and address of the person making the nomination should also be included.

EQC will honor award winners during a ceremony to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Earth Day at the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort on April 19, 2000.



### Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission

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### New Improved EQC Web Site



Check out EQC's revised Web site. The site now contains the full text of the 1998-99 *State of Kentucky's Environment* report, the recently released *EQC 1998-99 Biennial Report* on

EQC activities, and a photo gallery of EQC meetings. Visit us at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>.



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